

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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O R 030810Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2087

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USSAG IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5439

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: MEDIA VISIT TO USSAG/7AF

REF: CINCPAC 020845Z APR 74

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE OFFERED ON PROPOSED QUESTIONS
AND ANSWERS, PARA 1 B REFTEL.

2. QUESTION 7. WE SUGGEST OMITTING THE SENTENCE IN
THE SUGGESTED REPLY "THE DECISION AS TO ANY US MILITARY
RESPONSE WOULD DEPEND ON THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS".
ALTERNATIVELY, MENTION SHOULD BE MWAE OF CONSULTATIONS
WITH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED AND, WITH RESPECT TO ANY
OPERATIONS LAUNCHED FROM BASES IN THAILAND, APPROVAL
OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT.

3. QUESTION 25. WE WOULD PREFER DEFINITIVE STATEMENT:
THERE IS NO PLAN TO USE B-52'S BASED IN THAILAND FOR
RECONNAISSANCE. THE USE OF B-52'S IN A RECONNAISSANCE
ROLE HAS NEVER BEEN APPROVED. THE USE OF B-52'S AND
OTHER AIRCRAFT OPERATING FROM BASES IN THAILAND IS
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SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION WITH THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT.

4. QUESTION 46. WE SUGGEST REWORDING THE 7TH AND 8TH SENTENCES
OF THE PROPOSED REPLY TO READ: ALL ACTIVITIES NOW
CONDUCTED IN SEA ARE CONTINUALLY EXAMINED AND REVIEWED
AT ALL LEVELS OF COMMAND TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, ARRANGEMENTS WITH HOST
GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, AND US LAWS RELATING TO AIR
OPERATIONS AND OTHER US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE
AREA. OUR OPERATIONS ARE LIMITED BY ALL THESE FACTORS.
ALTERNATIVELY USSAG COULD SIMPLY REFER THE QUESTIONER
TO MACTHAI.
KINTNER

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